

## **§ 501.17**

## **39 CFR Ch. I (7–1–05 Edition)**

that quality and performance standards are maintained.

(a) For meters that operate at 100 or more printing cycles per minute—4 million cycles. For meters that operate at less than 100 printing cycles per minute (and cannot be used interchangeably on power-base machines that operate at 100 or more printing cycles per minute)—2 million cycles.

(b) For multidenomination and omnidenomination meters, postage value selection elements must be tested for one-half million operations. A complete operation includes selection of a value and return to zero.

(c) Balance register lockout operation must be done at the start of, at intervals during, and after the printing cycle test.

### **§ 501.17 Protection of printing dies and keys.**

During the process of fabricating parts and assembling postage meters, the manufacturer must exercise due care to prevent loss or theft of keys or of serially numbered postage-printing dies or component parts (such as denomination-printing dies, or auxiliary power supply and meter-setting equipment for electronic meters) that might be used in some manner to defraud the Postal Service of revenue. All serially numbered printing dies produced should be accounted for by assembly into meters or by evidence of mutilation or destruction. Postage printing dies removed from meters and not suitable for reassembly must also be mutilated so that the dies cannot be used or they must be completely destroyed.

### **§ 501.18 Secure destruction.**

(a) Authorized meter manufacturers/distributors may destroy meters, when required, in accordance with methods approved in advance by the manager of Postage Technology Management. The postage meter must be rendered completely inoperable by the destruction process and associated postage-printing dies must be destroyed in accordance with § 501.17. Manufacturers/distributors must submit the proposed destruction method; a schedule listing the meters to be destroyed, by serial number and model; and the proposed time and place of destruction to the manager of

Postage Technology Management for approval prior to any meter destruction. Manufacturers/distributors must record and retain the serial numbers of the meters to be destroyed, and provide the list in electronic form in accordance with Postal Service requirements for postage meter accounting and tracking systems. Manufacturers/distributors must give sufficient advance notice of the destruction to allow the manager of Postage Technology Management to schedule observation by Postage Technology Management or its designated representative. The Postal Service representative must ensure that the serial numbers of the meters destroyed are the same as the serial numbers recorded by the manufacturer/distributor on the list of destroyed meters, and that the destruction is performed in accordance with a Postal Service-approved method or process.

(b) These requirements for meter destruction apply to all postage meters, postage evidencing systems, and postal security devices included as a component of a postage evidencing system.

[66 FR 55097, Nov. 1, 2001]

### **§ 501.19 Destruction of meter stamps.**

All meter stamps printed in the process of testing dies or meters must be collected and destroyed daily.

[60 FR 30726, June 9, 1995. Redesignated at 66 FR 55097, Nov. 1, 2001]

### **§ 501.20 Inspection of new and rebuilt meters.**

All new and rebuilt meters must be inspected carefully before leaving the manufacturer's meter service station.

[60 FR 30726, June 9, 1995. Redesignated at 66 FR 55097, Nov. 1, 2001]

### **§ 501.21 Keys and setting equipment.**

The meter manufacturer must furnish keys and other essential equipment for setting the meters to all post offices under whose jurisdiction its meters are licensed for use. These items must be protected and must not be furnished to persons not authorized by the Postal Service to possess them. The Postal Service shall maintain control over the procurement, manufacture, and distribution of meter security seals. Manufacturers must reimburse